

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 COA-01 SCSE-00 (ISO) R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO

UNCLAS STATE 031071

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EC

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT'S NOON PRESS BRIEFING

1. FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE AT DEPARTMENT'S NOON
BRIEFING TODAY:

QUESTION: WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THOSE FISHERMEN
THAT ARE STUCK DOWN IN ECUADOR?

ANSWER: I DON'T HAVE ANY SPECIFIC DETAILS TO
ADD, EXCEPT THAT WE OBVIOUSLY ARE IN VERY CLOSE CONSUL-
TATION WITH THE ECUADOREAN GOVERNMENT ON THIS SUBJECT.

QUESTION: HAVE THEY TAKEN ALL THE TUNA OFF?

ANSWER: I DON'T KNOW. I'LL HAVE TO CHECK INTO
THAT.

QUESTION: CAN YOU FIND SOMEONE WHO COULD GIVE
YOU THE TOTAL AMOUNT THAT WAS PAID LAST YEAR BY THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT TO FISHING-VESSEL OWNERS WHOSE CARGO
WAS CONFISCATED BY ECUADOR AND PERU AND OTHERS CLAIM-
ING THE TWO HUNDRED MILE THING?

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ANSWER: I'LL HAVE TO LOOK INTO THAT.

QUESTION: WE HAVEN'T HAD FOR A LONG TIME HOW
MUCH THE TAXPAYERS ARE GETTING SOAKED FOR THIS LITTLE
WAR WE'RE HAVING DOWN THERE.

ANSWER: I'LL LOOK INTO THAT.

2. SUBSEQUENT TO BRIEFING PRESS WAS INFORMED (A) TUNA
REMAINS ABOARD SEIZED VESSELS, (B) NO SEIZURES OCCURRED
LAST YEAR AND (C) GOE FINES LEVIED ON U.S. FISHING
VESSELS SINCE 1966 TOTAL SLIGHTLY UNDER DOLLARS
5.2 MILLION. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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Drafter: LA/EP - JFKING:GFH
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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